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April 27, 2015

Weekly Pease Perfluorochemical (PFC) Testing Program Update

Community Engagement:

- The City of Portsmouth is setting up a Community Advisory Board, which will be independent of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). This group will serve to give feedback and recommendations about the PFC blood testing program.
- NH DHHS has a twitter account where we will send out periodic updates along with this weekly update. The NH DHHS Public Information Twitter account is: @NHDHHSPIO.

Testing Process:

- As of Friday 4/24/15, a total of 402 persons have indicated interest in blood testing for PFCs; this includes 290 adults and 112 children.
- Information packets with questionnaires and consent forms have been mailed to a total of 370 families (multiple people can be in a family). DHHS has received back 218 questionnaires and consent forms as of Friday 4/24/15.
- Portsmouth Hospital phlebotomy facilities:
 - **Adults** with DHHS issued requisition forms and labels should go to the Portsmouth Regional Hospital blood draw facility on the Pease Tradeport (located at 26 Manchester Square, Portsmouth, NH) to get their blood drawn, Monday – Friday, 7:00 am to 1:00 pm (no appointment necessary).
 - **Children** with DHHS issued requisition forms and labels should go to the Portsmouth Regional Hospital, Jackson Gray Medical Building (located at 330 Borthwick Avenue, 1st floor Suite 112, Portsmouth, NH) to get their blood drawn, Monday – Friday, 7:00 am to 1:00 pm (no appointment necessary).
- As of Friday 4/24/15, the NH DHHS lab has received 94 blood specimens. We are in process of shipping the first couple batches of blood specimens to the testing lab.

Noteworthy Events and Meetings:

- The NH DHHS hosted a community meeting on Tuesday night March 31, 2015 at the Pease Tradeport to discuss the PFC testing program and hear community feedback. Video of this event can be found on the DHHS website at: <http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us/dphs/investigation-pease.htm>

Any persons with questions about the testing program can call the DHHS Public Inquiry line Monday – Friday, 8am–4pm, at 603-271-9461.